GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2527
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
LOAN ASSISTANCE TO SEA FOOD INDUSTRIES
K. KARUNAKARAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide loan to Sea Food Industries at lower rate of interest through Banks and Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority has been authorised to look after this industry on behalf of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) & (b) The Government of India have set up a Special Task Force for examining the credit requirements of the seafood industry and also approved a separate study to be conducted by the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta on restructuring of working capital finance and structuring term loan requirements of marine products export sector and recommend necessary measures.

(c) & (d) As per the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act 1972,MPEDA is responsible for the development of marine products industry with special reference to exports. The measures envisaged under the MPEDA Act include,inter - alia , developing and regulating off-shore and deep-sea fishing, fixing standards and specifications for marine products for exports, regulating the export of marine products and registering exporters of marine products. Some of the steps taken by the MPEDAfor boosting the exports of marine products from India include, inter-alia, implementation of schemes for procurement of equipment/machinery, development of new farms, conducting market research/survey, conducting demonstration programmes for propagating eco-friendly aquaculture, propagating diversified aquaculture, promoting exports of value added items and conducting extension and training programmes for different segments of marine products industry.